

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

2005 SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES PROGRAM PLAN

NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

Pursuant to the U.S. Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 and Ark. Code Ann. 20-76-201, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the Department of Human Services announces publication of the Social Services Block Grant Comprehensive Services Program Plan for State Fiscal Year 2005. The Plan is now available for public review. The Department of Human Services will use Social Services Block Grant funds for the services listed and described in the Plan. The Plan will be in effect from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.

Social services are offered to individuals and families to help them become less dependent on others for financial support or personal care, to protect children and adults from neglect, abuse or exploitation, to provide family maintenance, to prevent unnecessary institutional placement, or to provide institutional placement when needed.

Eligibility

Most services are provided without charge to those who are eligible. To be eligible, a person must need the service and meet one of the goals described above, be a resident of the state while receiving the service, meet any special criteria set in the Plan for a particular service, and be in one of these eligibility categories: persons receiving Transitional Employment Assistance; aged, blind or disabled persons who receive Supplemental Security Income; persons whose income does not exceed the income guidelines shown in the Plan (for example, a family of four earning \$23,112 or less would be eligible for most services); persons whose income is not considered (when eligibility cannot be established) so they may receive services to remedy or prevent neglect, abuse or exploitation; youth who are eligible regardless of income if they are adjudicated delinquents, or FINS (family in need of services).

Complete detailed descriptions of eligibility criteria, including the income scale, are shown in the Plan.

Funding

Arkansas will receive an estimated \$15,855,480 in federal funding for State Fiscal Year 2005. This will be matched with \$2,948,506 in state and local funds. Funds are allocated to divisions and offices in the Department of Human Services and other state agencies. The divisions, offices, and agencies and the services they provide with the Social Services Block Grant funds are listed below.

Division of Aging and Adult Services - Chore Services, Congregate Meals, Day Care for Adults, Home Delivered Meals, Protective Services for Adults, Socialization/Recreation Services, and Transportation Services

Division of Children and Family Services - Coordinated Court Services, Day Care for Children, Protective Services for Children, Substitute Care for Children, and Supportive Services for Children and Families

Division of County Operations - Special Services for the Disabled and Supportive Services for Children and Families

Division of Developmental Disabilities Services – Case Management Services, Community Integration Services, Day Services for DD Children, Developmentally Disabled Services, Special Services for the Disabled, Supported Living Services, Supportive Services for Children and Families and Transportation Services

Division of Behavioral Health Services - Mental Health Services, Special Service for the Disabled and Supervised Living Services

Division of Services for the Blind - Supportive Services for the Blind

Division of Youth Services - Non-Residential Services for Youth and Substitute Care for Youth

Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - Special Service for the Disabled, Supervised Living Services, and Training and Education Services

Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission - Special Services for the Disabled

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to age, religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, sex, race, creed, color or national origin.

Public Review and Comment

Copies of the proposed plan may be obtained by writing the Department of Human Services, Office of Finance and Administration, P. O. Box 1437, Slot W405, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437 or by calling (501) 682-6586 or by email at dianne.cooper@mail.state.ar.us. Alternate formats (large print, audio tape, etc.) will be provided upon request. All comments must be submitted in writing within 30 days following the date of the initial newspaper notice. Comments should be mailed to the above address.

Jerry Berry, Chief Fiscal Officer
Arkansas Department of Human Services

Date